

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please AMEND the paragraphs beginning at page 1, line 19 through page 2 line 10 as follows:

One of the objects to be identified is the human body itself, especially the human face. In Haiyuan Wu's "Face Detection and Rotations Estimation Using Color Information", the 5<sup>sup</sup>.th IEEE International Workshop on Robot and Human Communication, 1996, pp341-346, which is incorporated herein by reference, is disclosed a template matching method for detecting the human face. The effect of the method depends too much on the quality of the image to be detected, especially on the lighting conditions and the complexity of the background. The face differences between different races also affect the detection.

In some other methods, a human face may be detected from an image through detecting first its features (such as the eyes, the mouth and the nose, etc.). In Kin-Man Lam's "A Fast Approach for Detecting Human Faces in a Complex Background", Proceedings of the 1999 IEEE International Symposium on Circuits and System, 1998, ISCAS'98 Vol.4, pp85-88, which is incorporated herein by reference, is disclosed a method for detecting eyes, wherein a plurality of areas are assumed as possible eyes firstly, then they are checked according to some conditions to verify the real eye areas. The efficiency of this method is low because in an image there are too many possible eye areas (eye candidates).

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 23 as follows:

FIG. 2 shows ~~an~~ a processed image containing no human eye;

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 9 as follows:

The reading means 504 receives input from an image source 502. The read-in image is processed by candidate detection means 506, which ~~generating~~generates a list of candidate eye areas. The selecting means is in charge of selecting one unverified candidate eye area from said list to be verified by the verifying means 508. The controlling means 510 obtains the verification result of the verifying means 508, deletes the candidate eye area if it is false, and controls the selecting means 507 to select a next unverified candidate eye area, if any. When there is no unverified candidate eye area in the list, the controlling means 510 inform the output means 512 to output the final list to said subsequent processing apparatus 516.